



A graphic novel by  
**ARNOLD ARRE**

# **HALINA FILIPINA**

*A New Yorker  
in Manila*



**TUTTLE**



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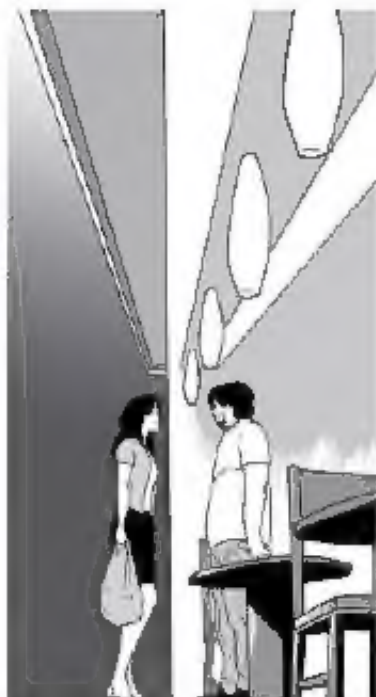
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*"The identity of the Filipino today is of a person asking what is his identity?"*

*— Nick Joaquin, Culture and History*

## Introduction



One of the best pieces of advice I've ever heard was from Tom Kelley of IDEO during his talk for *Stanford's Entrepreneurial Thought Leaders* series. He said that one of the ways to stay innovative was to "think like a traveler." He noted that when you visit another country as a tourist, you are immediately aware of the unique little things about that place that the locals have probably taken for granted: the way people greet each other on the street, the proper etiquette when entering a house, table manners, the design tropes of their advertising. Kelley says that if one keeps that mindset no matter where you are, you become sensitive to all the little things that make society work and are in a better position to find solutions to make it better.

This idea of "thinking like a traveler", I believe, is what makes Arnold one of the most innovative Filipino comic creators of our time. Many Filipino comics try to highlight their Filipino identity by relying usually on visual and verbal cues that come dangerously close to caricature, like having superheroes with design elements of the Philippine flag in it or wearing a *salakot* or a *barong*. Others use Philippine mythology or history as their mark of being Filipino, no doubt following in the footsteps of Arnold himself who pioneered this

particular genre with his award-winning graphic novel *The Mythology Class* back at the start of the millennium. Yet many of them still fail to capture that feeling of authenticity and sincerity with their stories, creating Wasserzized superheroes or fringe story clones draped in Philippine clichés or spouting Taglish dialogue. But when you read any of Arnold's works set in the Philippines, the characters and the settings genuinely feel Filipino. They feel like they are set in very specific parts of the Philippines from very specific parts of society. The way the characters talk, their body language, the distinct background details that pepper the setting of every scene, they all contribute to making the stories feel genuine. Filipinos who read it will feel right at home, and those from other countries will swear they've just taken a virtual Philippine vacation. And yet Arnold's stories don't just mimic and recreate Philippine culture and society. His stories comment on them and subtly



try to reshape them into something better. I believe he is able to achieve this because he "thinks like a traveller" and notices all these little quirks and nuances about our lives as Filipinos that most of us have become numb to. He takes them and crafts them into a narrative experience that enthralles us with seemingly little effort, like an artist transforming street junk into multi-million dollar sculptures.

*Halina Filipino* is probably one of my favorite Arnold Ave stories so far. One reason is that I'm a sucker for romantic slice-of-life stories, so this just hits me in all the right places. But it's also a story about two people meeting in the Philippines: Halina, a traveller and who is discovering just what the Philippines has to offer, and Cris, a local who is all-too familiar with the country and perhaps even a little bit sick of it. With any other author, it would be a nice set-up for a simple comedic romance. But Arnold uses his traveller's thinking in telling this story, making us reflect on the concepts of identity, of both pride and shame towards our country and ourselves, and how all that ties into the way we feel about those closest to us. It's a graphic novel that feels simultaneously comfortable yet also challenging. Only an author as observant and as skillful as Arnold could tackle such themes in such a subtle, entertaining, and heart-filling manner.

So as you turn the page, be prepared to see the Philippines through the eyes of Halina and Cris. Be prepared to see a little bit of yourself as well in them. And in both cases, I guarantee you'll find something familiar, yet also something unexpected and new. That's what happens when you read with Arnold Ave.

Jettie Bautista  
Alabang 2015

***"Arnold's stories don't just mimic and recreate Philippine culture and society. His stories comment on them and subtly try to reshape them into something better."***





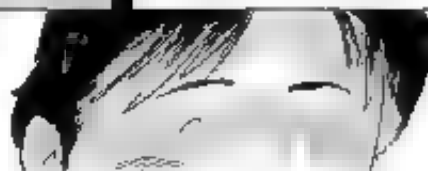


PRESENT DAY

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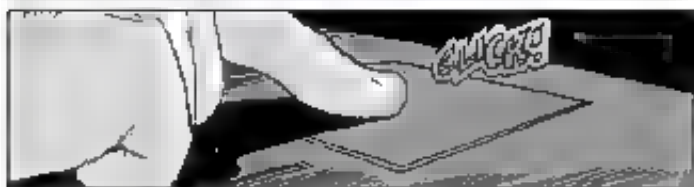
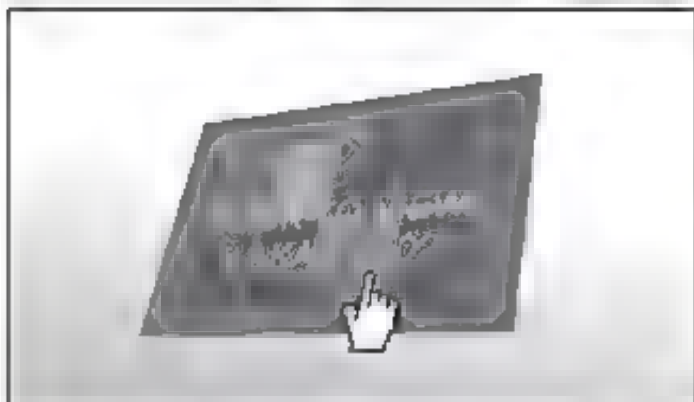


*My Crist!*

*It took a long time to find them, but as promised, here they are. Consider it a gift :)*

*Best regards,  
Bryan*



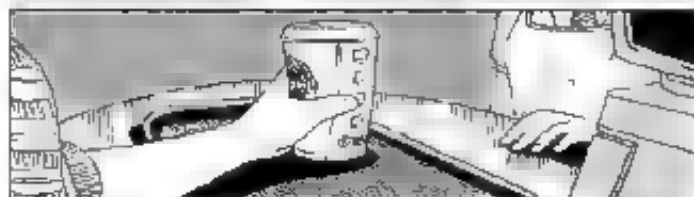


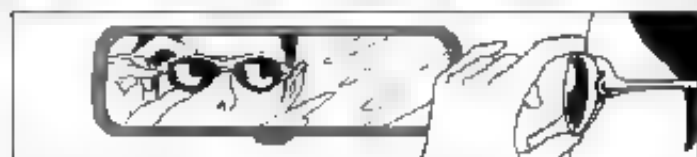
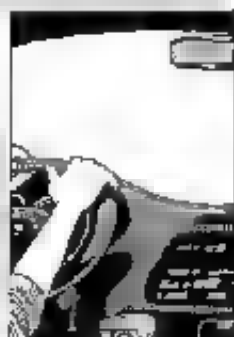
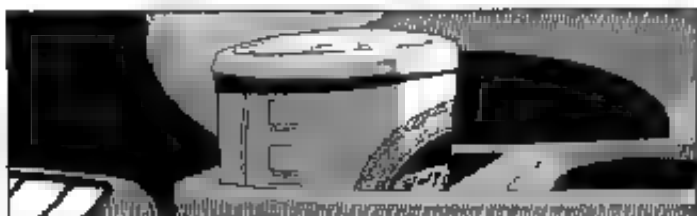




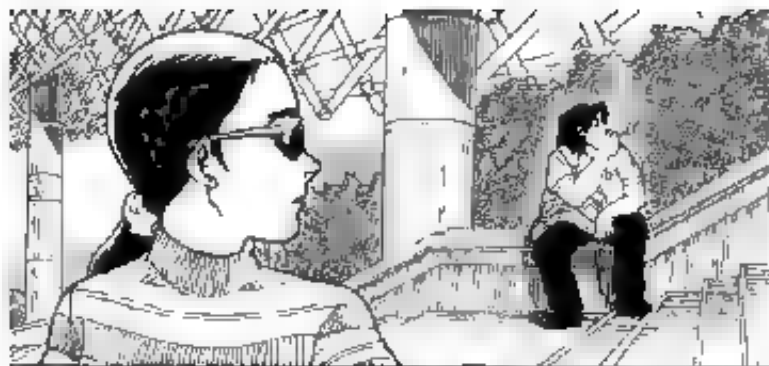
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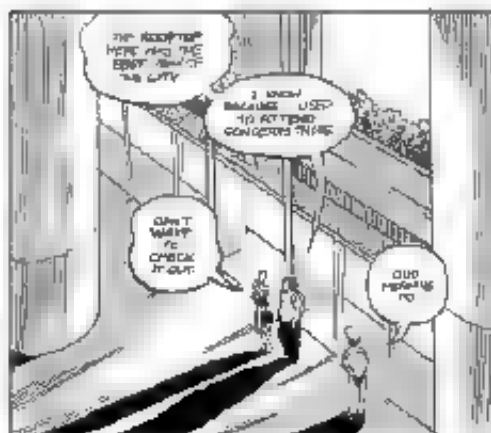
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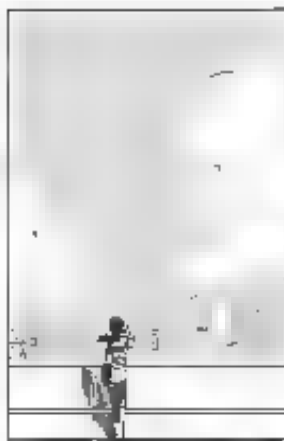


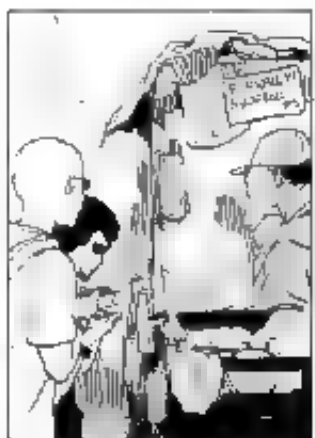










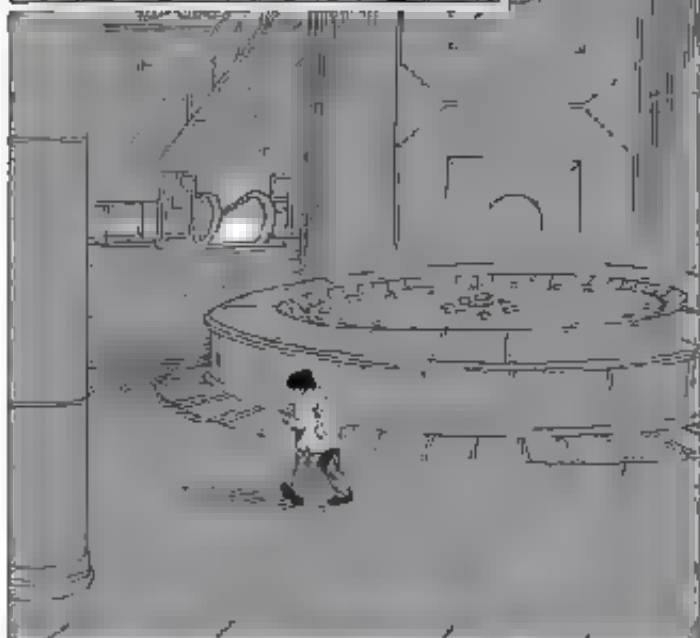




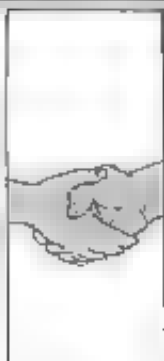






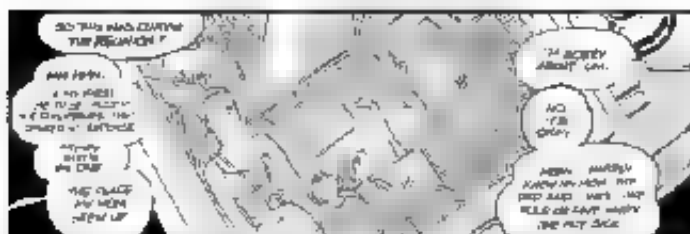


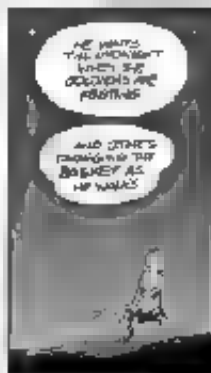
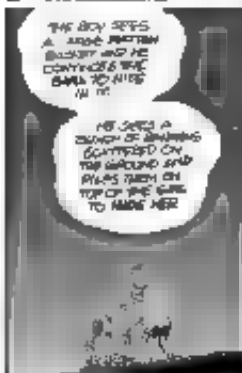
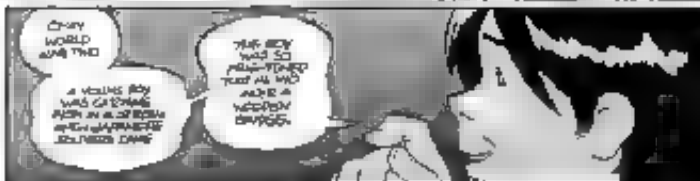




























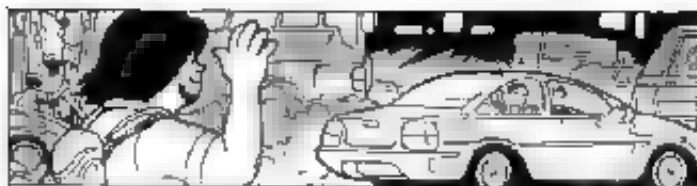


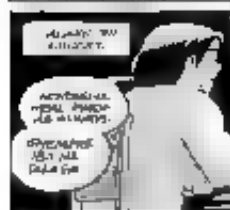
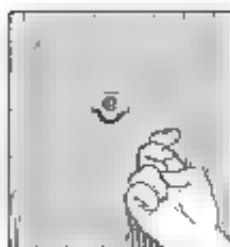


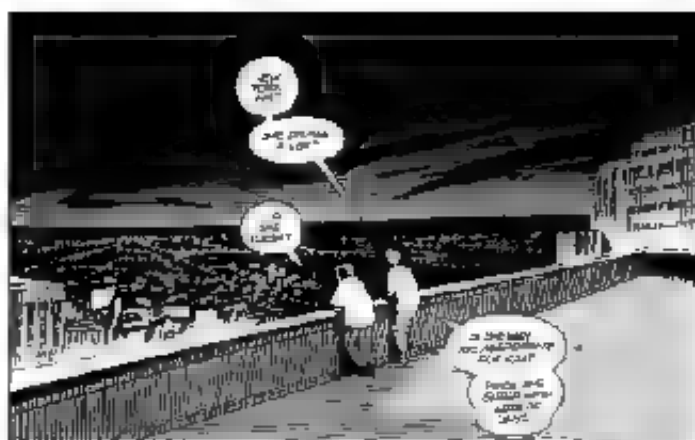


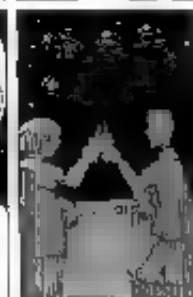


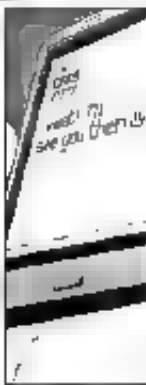
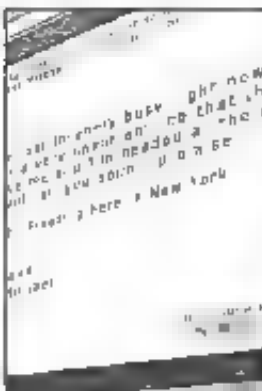












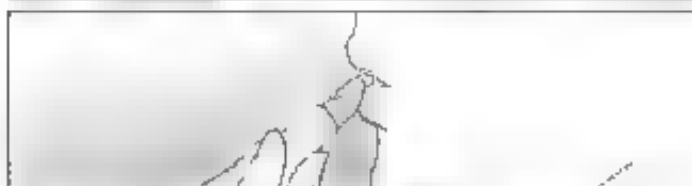
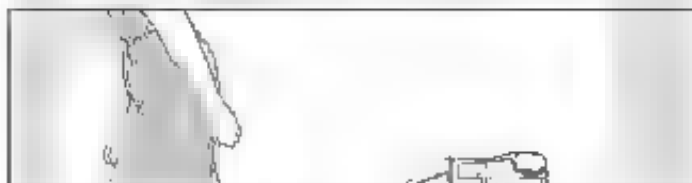








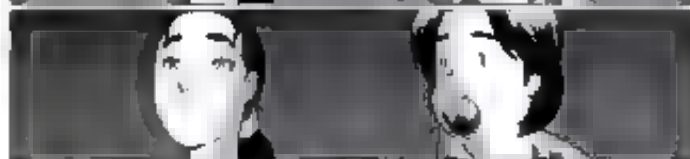
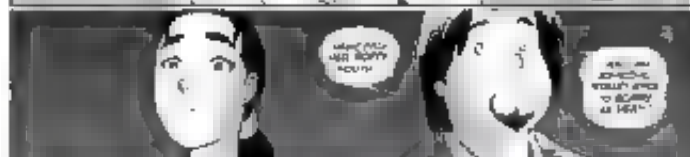














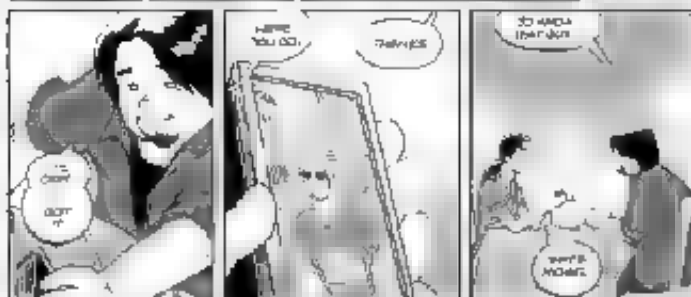
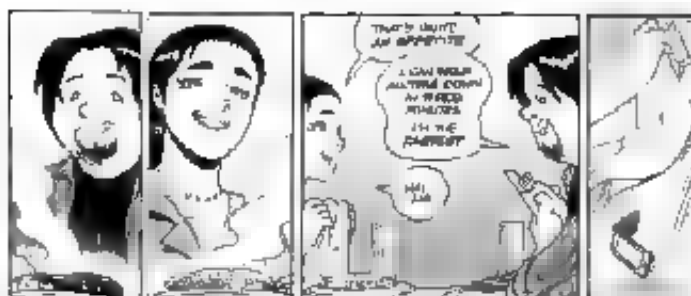


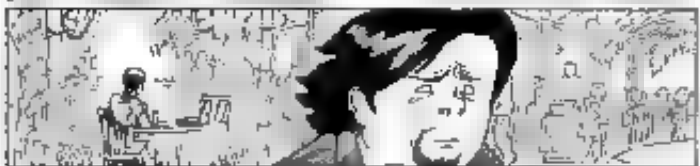


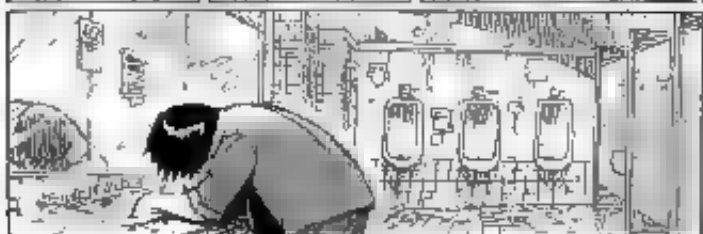












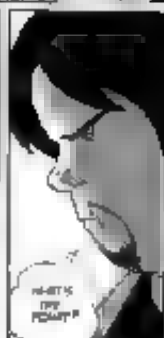
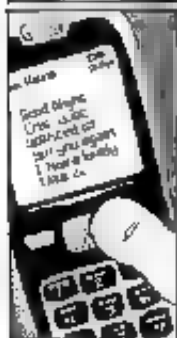










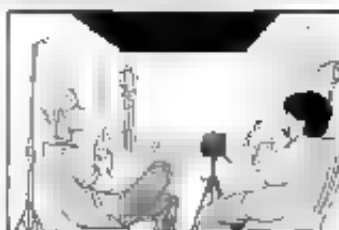
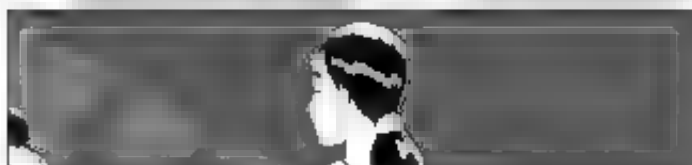
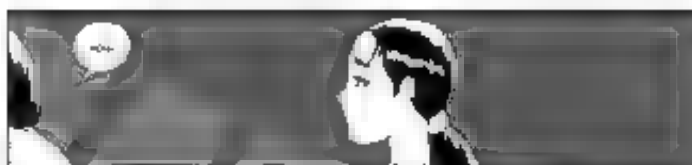




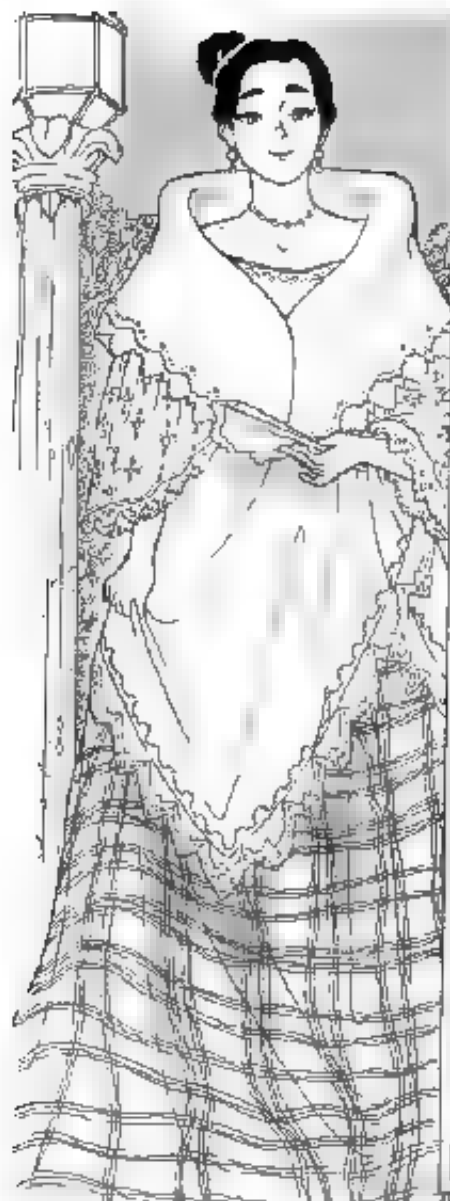


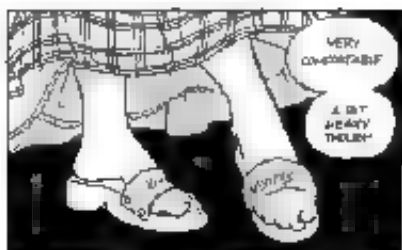




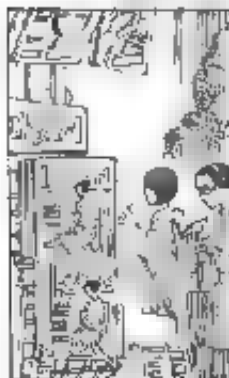


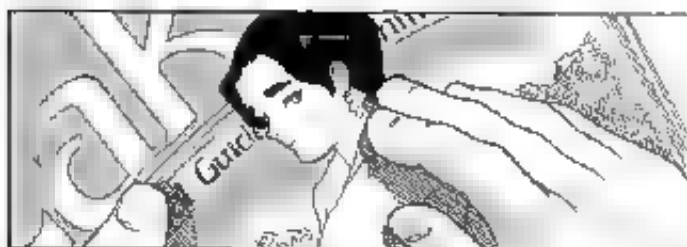










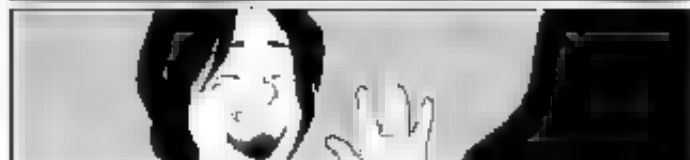


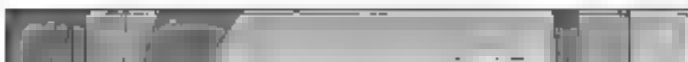
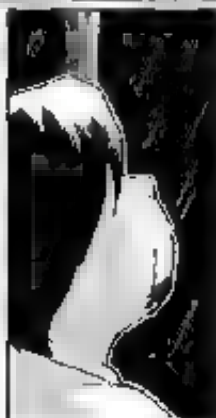


















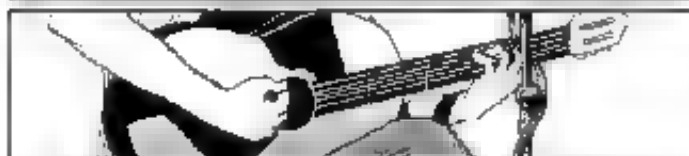


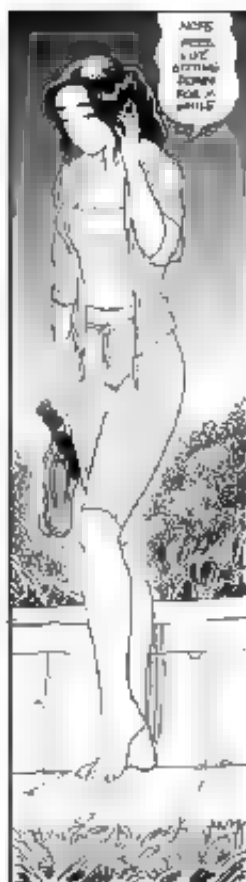


















Pacensya na..

PLEASE  
ROMANCE  
ME



kung ikaw ay  
if you're  
feeling  
a bit  
bored



Ayoko na sanang  
pagusapan pa.

I JUST  
DON'T WANT  
TO  
TALK  
ABOUT IT.



Kung gusto  
mo ay

IF  
YOU  
WANT



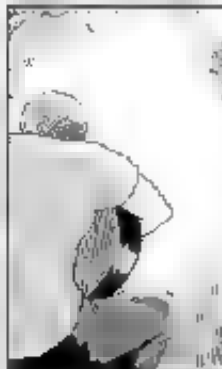
manood ka na  
lang ng sine

WHY  
NOT  
WATCH  
A  
MOVIE?



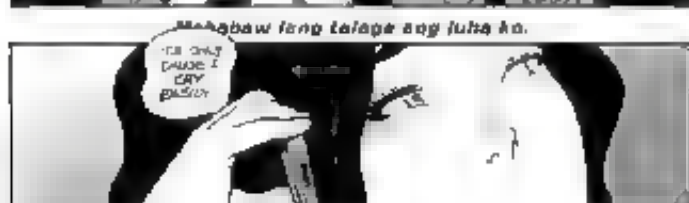
'Di ba humabes  
ngayon- baka  
may bago nang  
malabas.

ISN'T  
IT A  
THURSDAY?  
THERE  
MIGHT  
BE  
SOMETHING  
NEW  
PLAYING





*Pransya na...*



'Di ko mapigil

JUST  
CAN'T  
MOVE



ang aking damdamin

THIS  
FEELS  
LIKE  
HIM



puwede ba umalis ka na

PLEASE  
JUST  
LEAVE



kumutunog na ang keeper mo

YOUR  
PHONE'S  
OFF

um

sleeping?



sleeping?

"HANGUP"



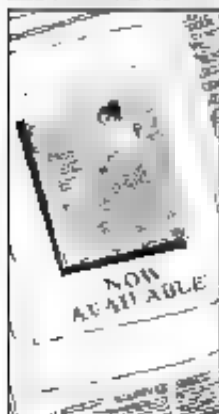






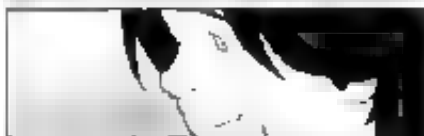
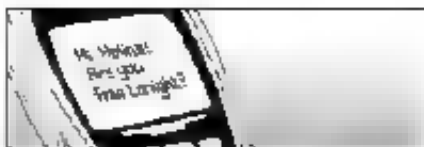




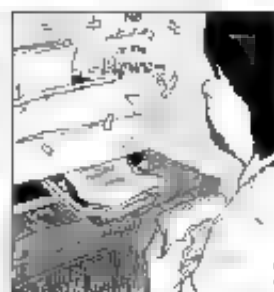
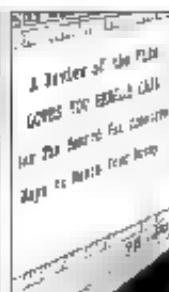












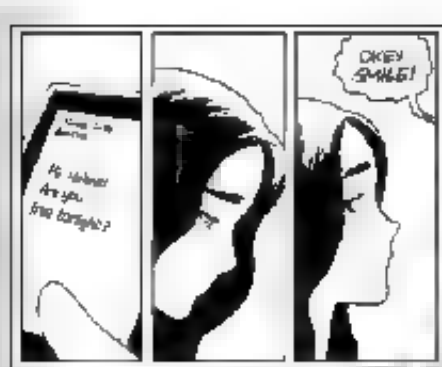


WANTING TO GO OUT  
TO THE PARK  
WITH MY FRIENDS

WANT  
TO GO OUT  
TO THE PARK

WANT  
TO GO OUT  
TO THE PARK



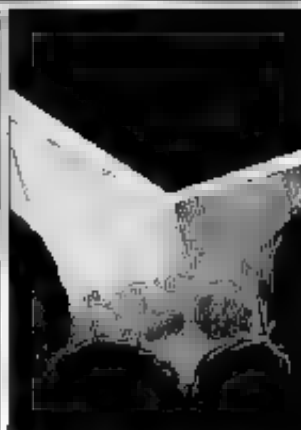


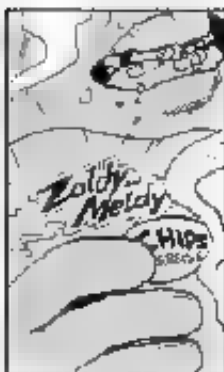


The first of these is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a collection of many different parts, each with its own characteristics and laws. This is the principle of diversity, which is the foundation of all knowledge. Without diversity, there would be no progress, no discovery, and no growth. The second principle is that of unity, which is the idea that all things are connected and interdependent. This is the principle of harmony, which is the goal of all human endeavor. The third principle is that of balance, which is the idea that all things should be in proportion and equilibrium. This is the principle of justice, which is the foundation of all society. The fourth principle is that of truth, which is the idea that all things should be as they are, and not as we wish them to be. This is the principle of honesty, which is the foundation of all trust. The fifth principle is that of love, which is the idea that all things should be done for the benefit of others. This is the principle of compassion, which is the foundation of all kindness. The sixth principle is that of wisdom, which is the idea that all things should be done with knowledge and understanding. This is the principle of reason, which is the foundation of all science. The seventh principle is that of courage, which is the idea that all things should be done with bravery and valor. This is the principle of heroism, which is the foundation of all greatness. The eighth principle is that of faith, which is the idea that all things should be done with belief and trust. This is the principle of hope, which is the foundation of all optimism. The ninth principle is that of patience, which is the idea that all things should be done with calmness and endurance. This is the principle of perseverance, which is the foundation of all success. The tenth principle is that of humility, which is the idea that all things should be done with modesty and simplicity. This is the principle of grace, which is the foundation of all beauty.

These ten principles are the foundation of all human knowledge and action. They are the principles that guide us in our lives, and they are the principles that make our world a better place. Without these principles, we would be lost and confused, and we would have no way to live our lives. Therefore, we must always remember these principles, and we must always strive to live by them. Only then can we truly know ourselves, and only then can we truly know the world.



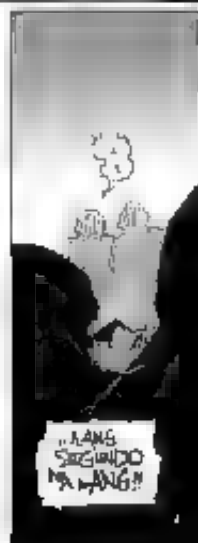




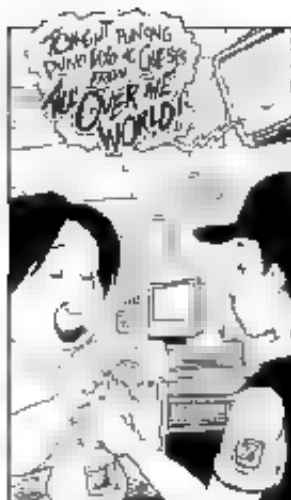






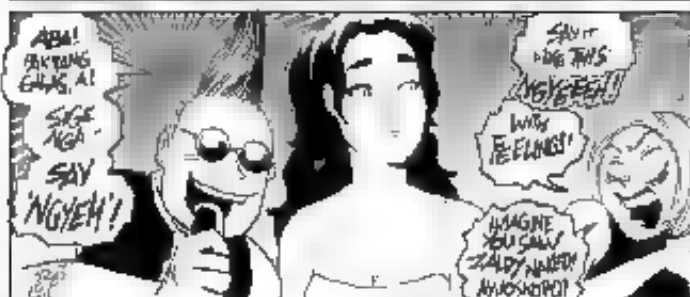








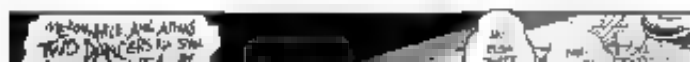
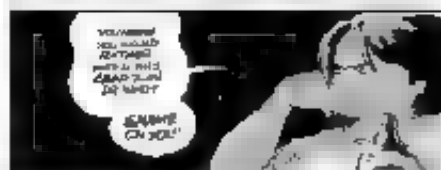
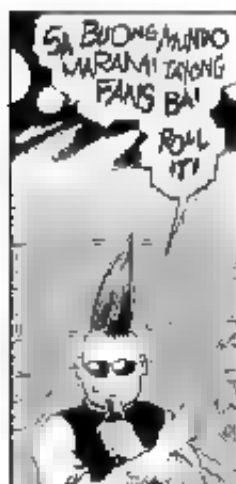




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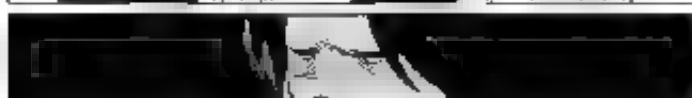








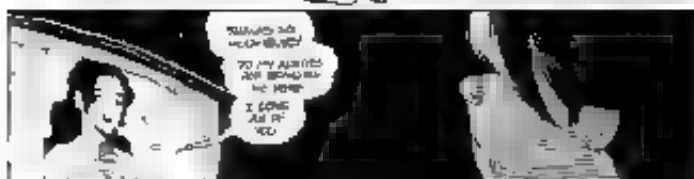
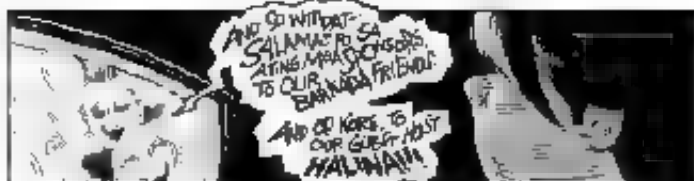




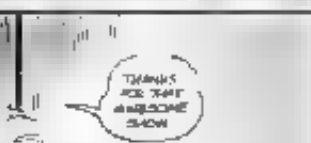




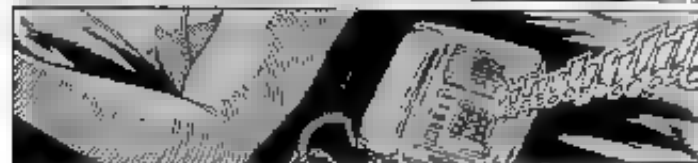
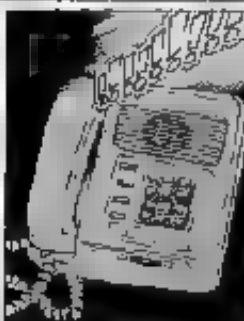


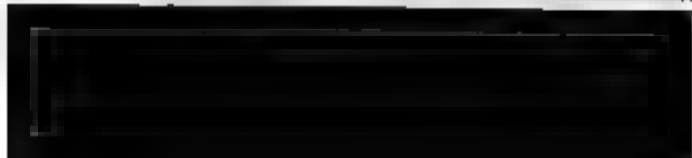










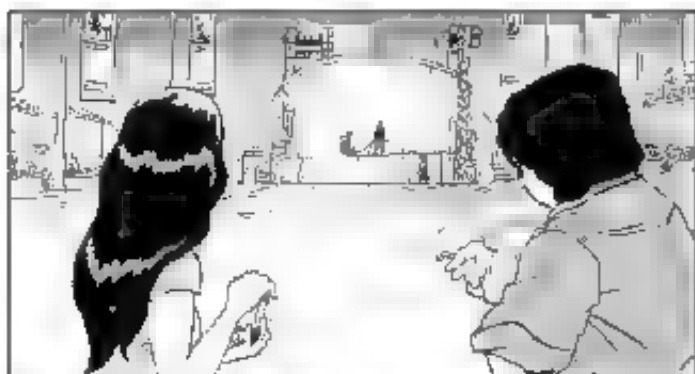


[The main body of the page is extremely faded and illegible. It appears to contain several paragraphs of text.]

[The bottom section of the page contains a few lines of text, possibly a footer or a concluding paragraph, which are also mostly illegible.]

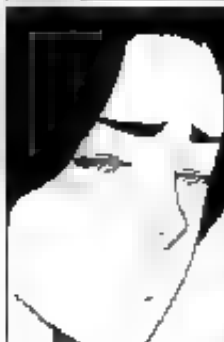
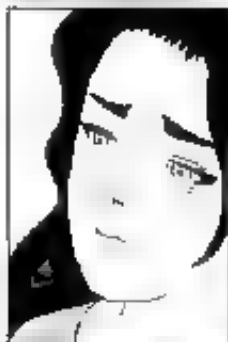


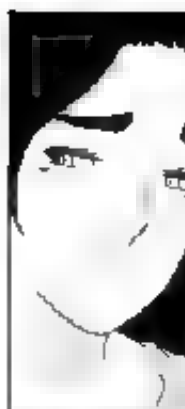












YES

WE  
DON'T WANT  
TO SHOW  
RIGHT?

RIGHT UP  
TO US  
YES



EXACTLY.



OH

OH

IF THAT'S HOW  
YOU FEEL

THAT

FINE

ANY MORE  
OF SUCH  
THINGS



WELL  
IT'S NOT  
TOO HARD  
TO ASK

WAS IT YOUR  
ACTION, AND A  
QUICKER MOVIE  
AND THE MOVIES  
TO QUALITY?

AND DON'T SAY IT  
WAS FOR THE MONEY



WELL  
BUT  
I DON'T  
WANT  
TO  
WASTE  
MY  
TIME

AND



THIS GIRL'S A  
JENNY. SHE'S A  
LOT LAzier

WINKS OUT OF  
THEIR MOUTH.

KNOWS ITS NOT  
ALICE TO YOU.

CONSIDERING YOU'RE  
BEING ALL KNOWING  
AND MOOD AND ALL



BUT ITS A LOT  
AS ITS THING  
CHITING ON YOUR  
AGE CONQUERING  
ALL DAY.



AND STAYING  
TO BECAUSE  
THEY  
CONSIDER  
YOURSELF  
YOUR  
SHARPER  
THAN THE  
REST OF  
US



WINKS  
MILKED  
A LOT OF  
PEOPLE

TELL  
ME

ON THE  
FACE DOES  
YOUR STAY  
DANCE  
HELP  
STAYING  
ON LONGER  
A THE  
WISDOMS



ON.  
BUT ILL  
TELL  
YOU  
WHAT YOU  
DID  
HELP



YOU HELPED  
DANCE YOUR  
FRAMES  
YOUR PARTING

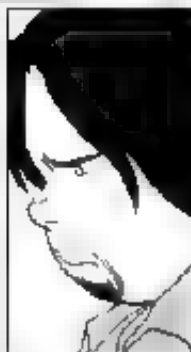
THAT'S SPECIAL  
DANCE. PEOPLE  
MORE OF PEOPLE  
SHOULD  
DANCE AS PEOPLE

BUT WHAT DID  
PEOPLE LIKE YOU  
CARE?

IN FACT WHEN DID  
YOU CARE

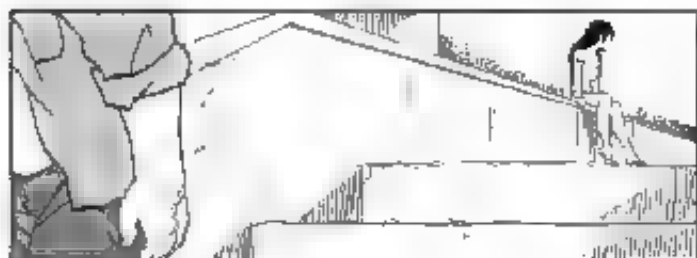
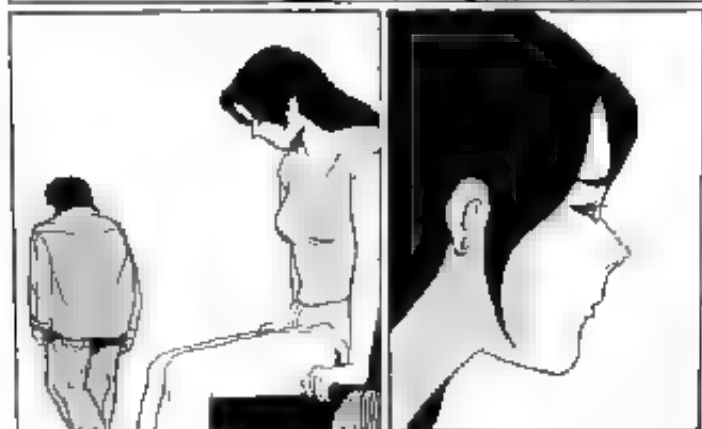
YOU'RE IN SUCH  
FAST WORLD WHAT

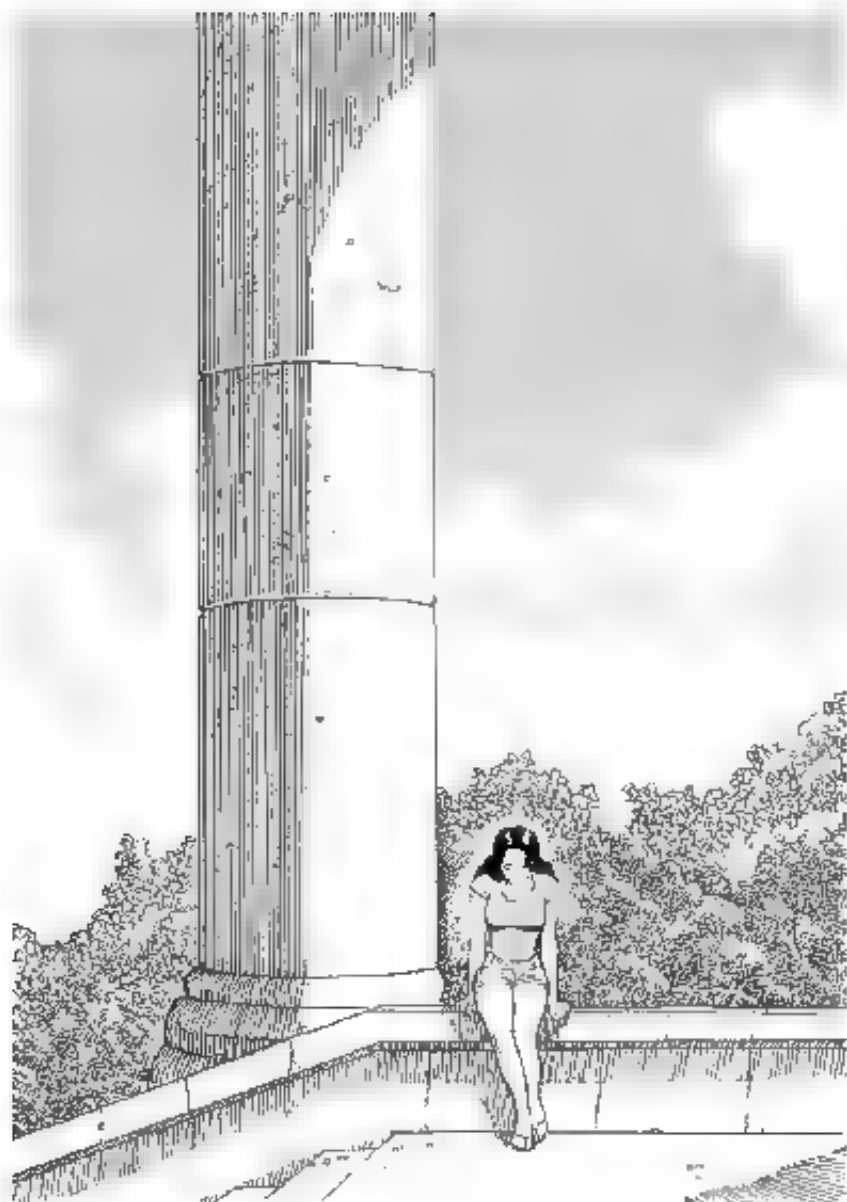
I  
Don't  
know  
what  
you  
mean  
you









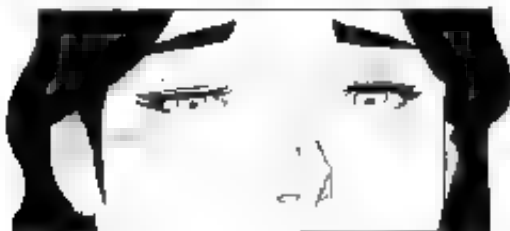




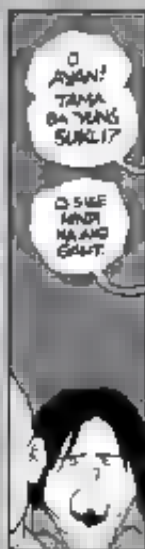
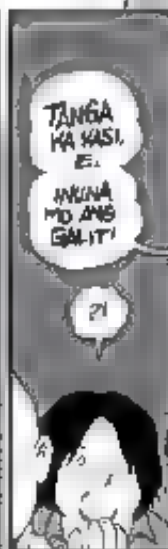




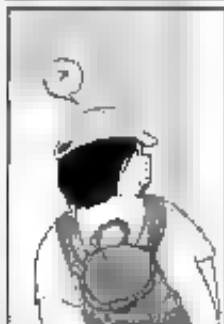
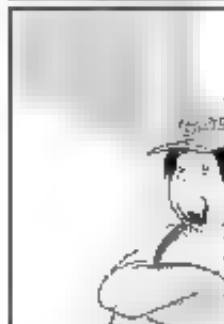
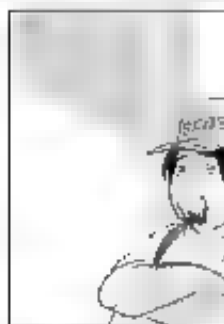


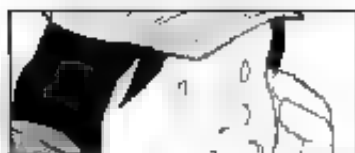












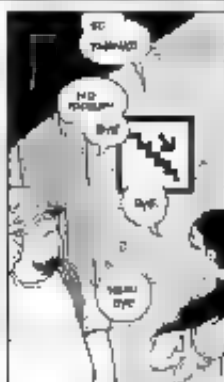






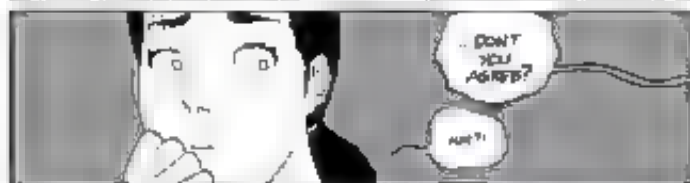
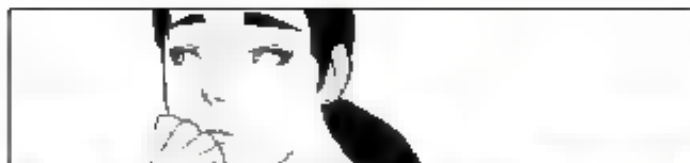


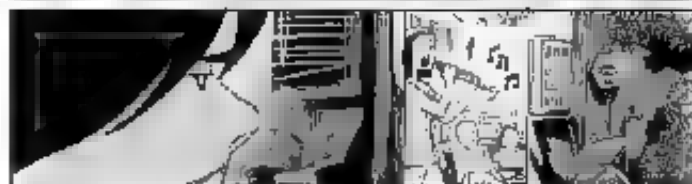
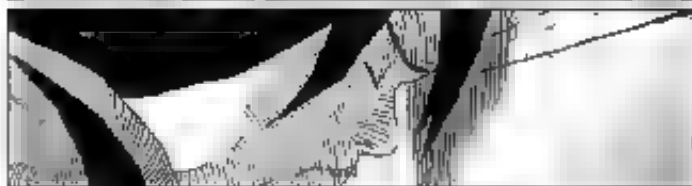










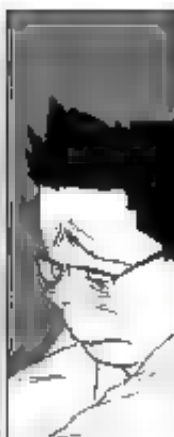






HELLO.  
I AM  
HARARY.  
PLEASE  
GO TO

LET ME  
SHOW YOU  
THE  
BEST  
PLACE  
TO  
MEET YOU



I  
LOVE  
YOU

I LOVE  
YOU VERY  
MUCH.



I NEED SEEING  
YOU FROM MY  
SIGHTS

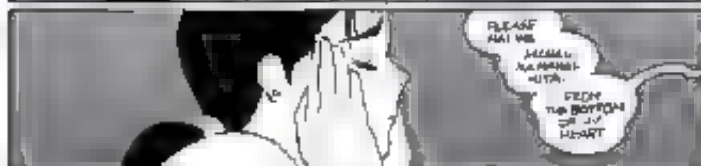
YOU ARE THE  
BEST  
PERSON  
I  
KNOW

I CAN FEEL THAT  
WE SHOULD  
BE TOGETHER



I CAN FEEL  
IT IN MY  
HEART  
DON'T YOU  
FEEL IT TOO?  
IN YOUR  
HEART?

ALSO?



PLEASE  
HAI ME

PLEASE  
HAI ME  
HAI ME

FROM  
THE BOTTOM  
OF MY  
HEART



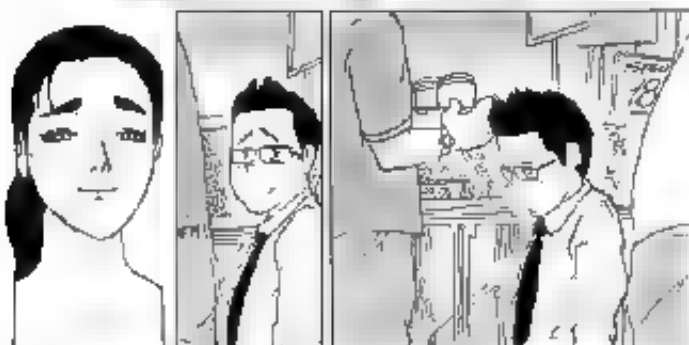
I  
LOVE  
YOU

I  
LOVE  
YOU

I  
LOVE  
YOU

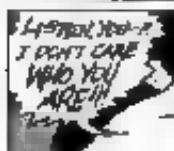


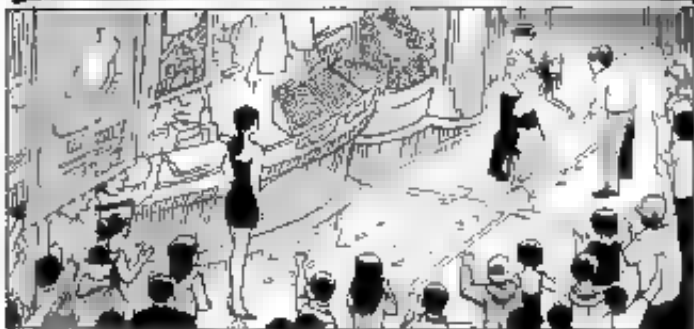
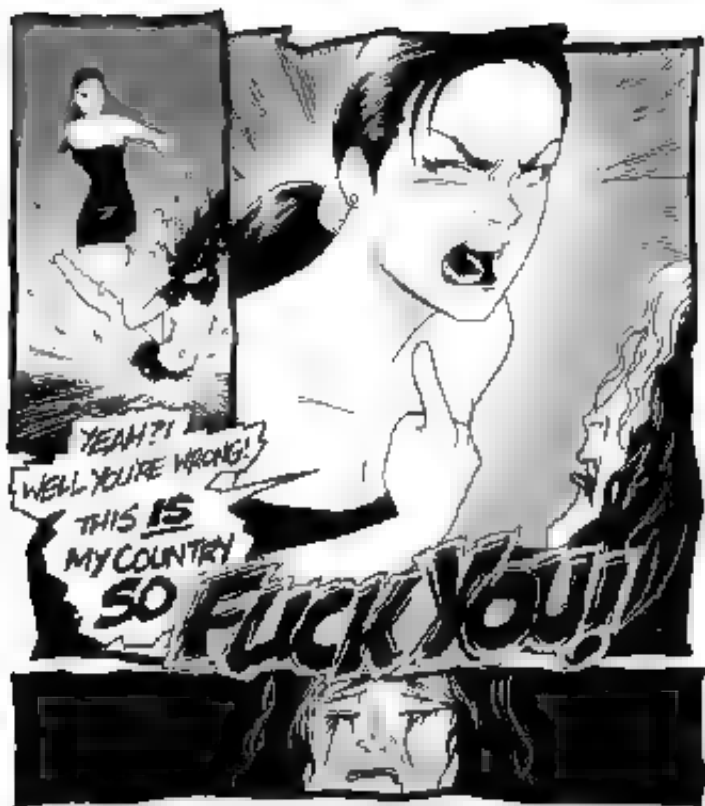




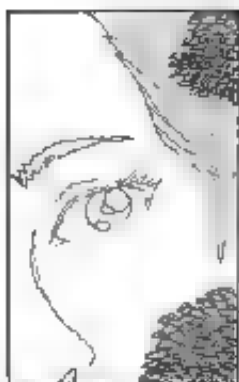








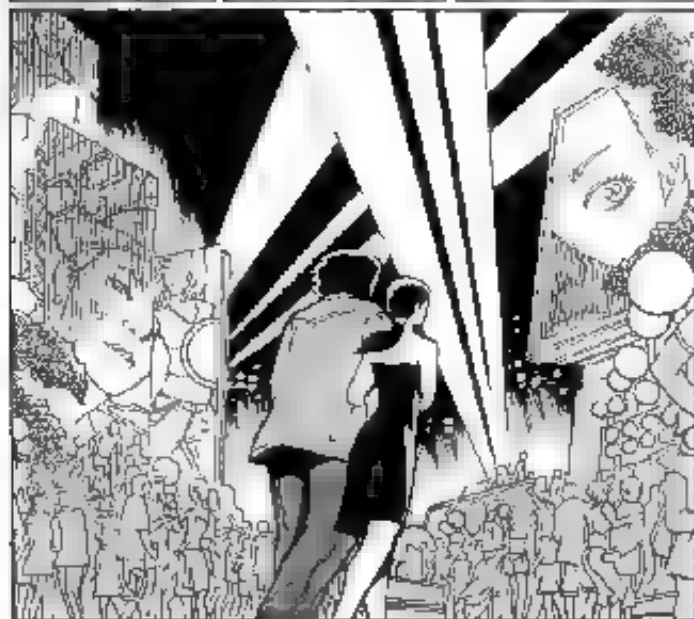
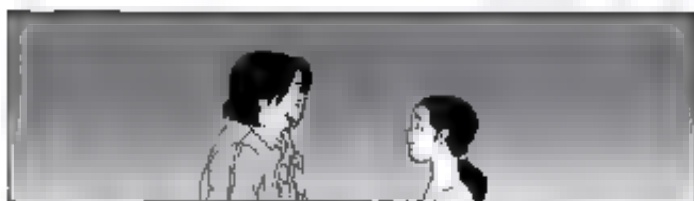












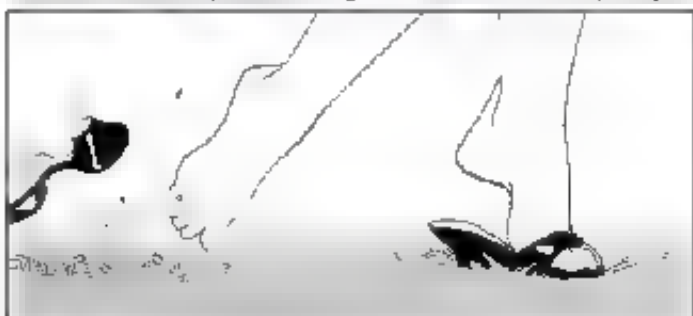
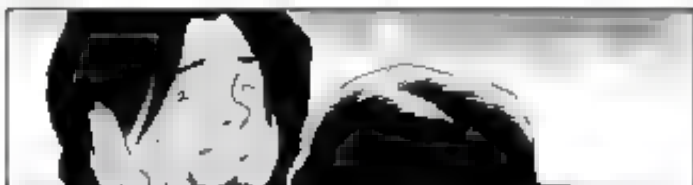






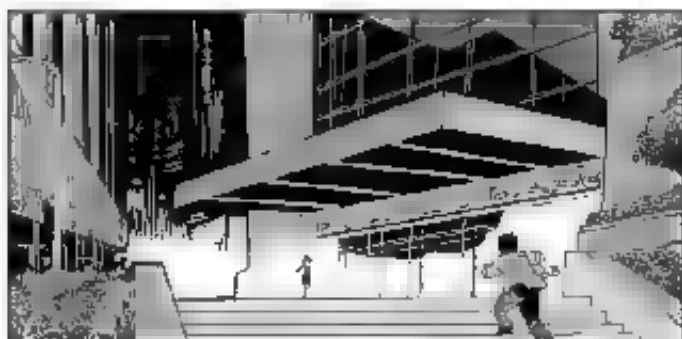






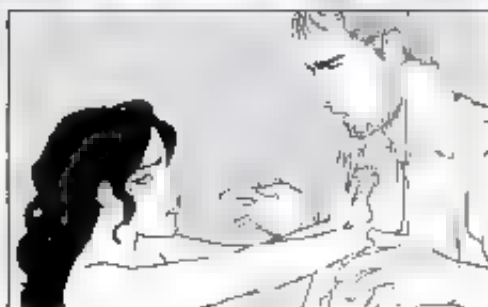
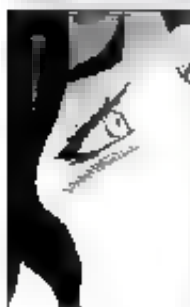
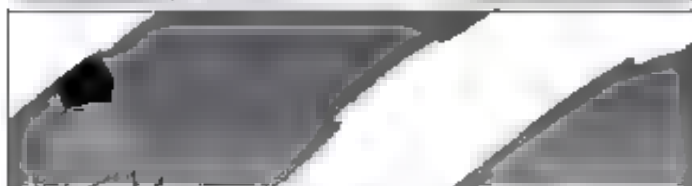




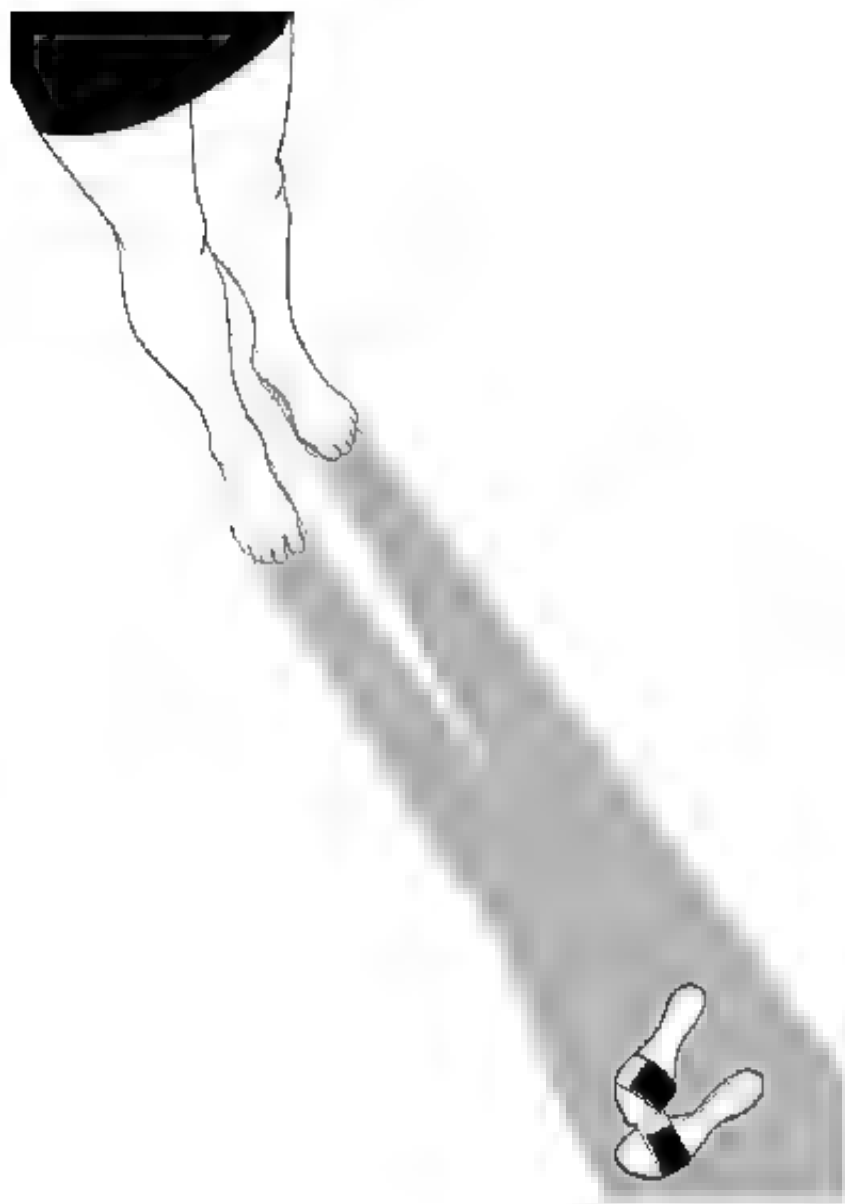


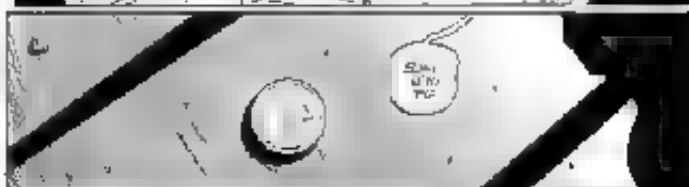








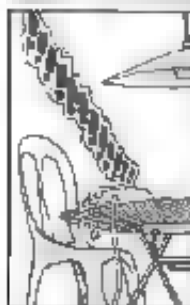
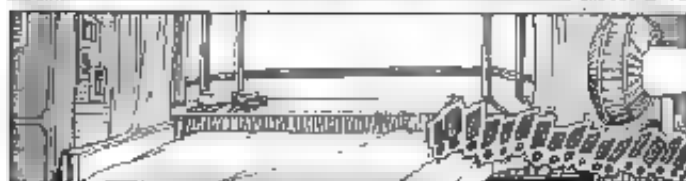
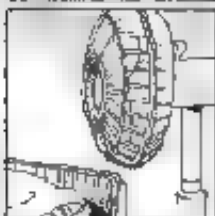
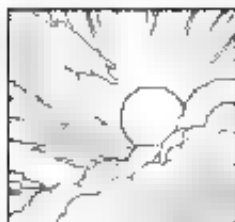


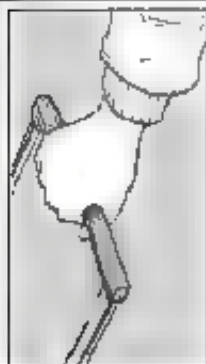
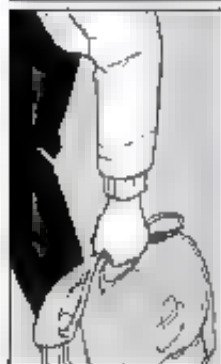














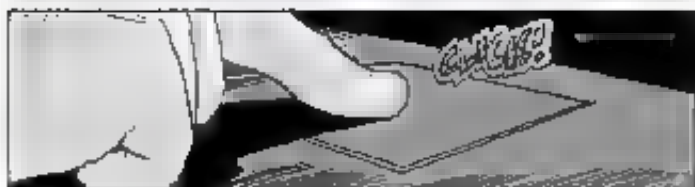
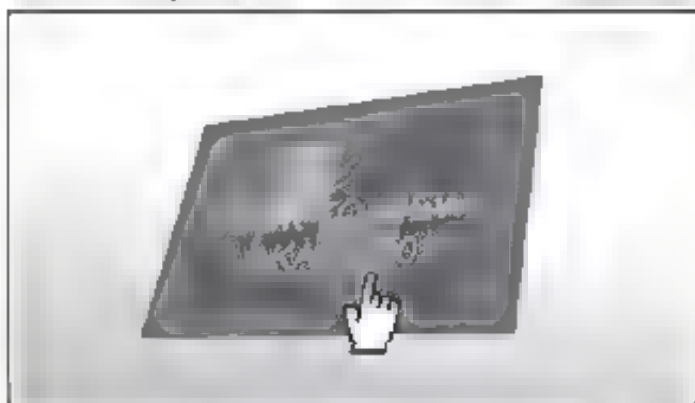


The first of these is the fact that the world is not a uniform whole, but a collection of many different parts, each with its own characteristics and laws. This is the principle of diversity, which is the foundation of all knowledge. Without diversity, there would be no progress, no discovery, no growth. It is the very essence of life, of nature, of the universe. We must learn to embrace diversity, to accept the differences between things and people, and to find value in each one. For it is in the diversity of the world that we find the richness of life, the beauty of nature, the wisdom of the ages.

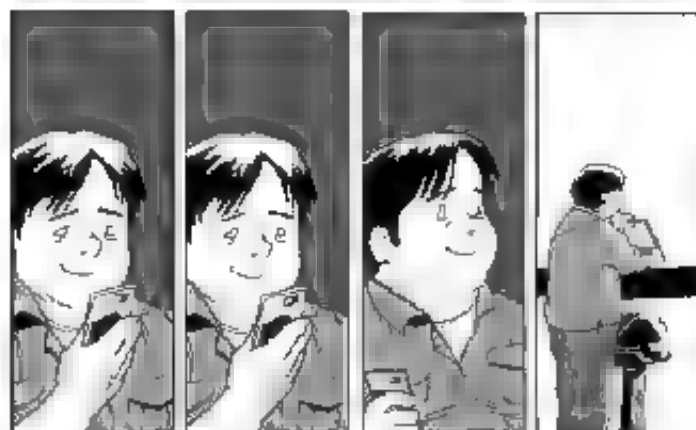
The second principle is that of unity. While the world is made of many different parts, it is also a whole, a single entity. All things are connected, all life is interdependent. We cannot understand one part of the world without understanding the whole. This is the principle of unity, which teaches us that we are all part of the same great scheme of things. It is the unity of the world that gives it meaning, that gives it purpose, that gives it value. We must learn to see the world as a whole, to understand the connections between things and people, and to find meaning in the unity of the universe.

The third principle is that of balance. The world is not a place of extremes, but a place of balance. There is a harmony between the different parts, a balance between the forces of nature, a peace between the peoples of the world. This is the principle of balance, which teaches us that we must find the right balance between all things, between the different parts of the world, between the forces of nature, between the peoples of the world. It is the balance of the world that gives it stability, that gives it strength, that gives it beauty. We must learn to find the balance in our lives, to understand the harmony between the different parts of the world, between the forces of nature, between the peoples of the world.

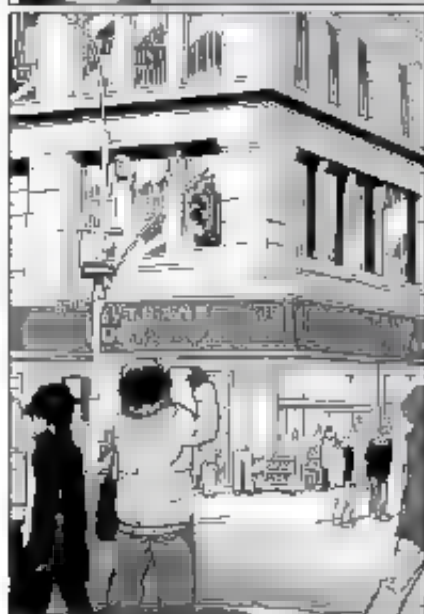
These three principles—diversity, unity, and balance—are the foundation of all knowledge, the basis of all wisdom, the key to all understanding. They are the principles that guide us through the world, that help us to see the world as it really is, that give us the power to change the world for the better. We must learn to live by these principles, to embrace diversity, to find unity, to maintain balance, and then we will be able to understand the world, to love the world, to make the world a better place for all of us.



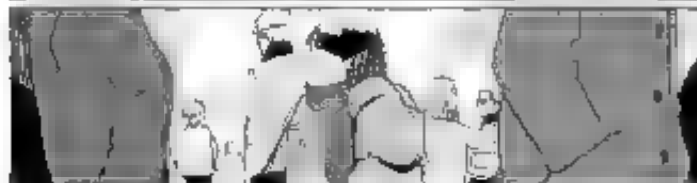


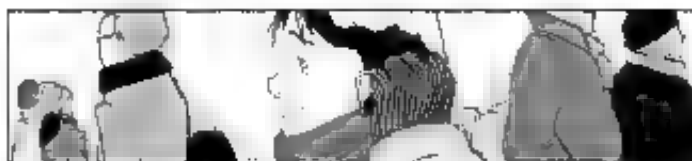






















## Hello, Again.

## Notes on Hanna Filipinas 13 year journey

Adrian Fajardo was written in the hot summer of 1992 and was completed in three months. I disciplined myself in to fulfilling a modest page count in a not-kind-of-because-I-have-a-conciseness-urge-to-do-it-when-it-is-for-a-unlikely-relationship-still-developing-but-a-fellow-student-in-the-same-class. Although in this piece, I don't understand my thoughts after the first few paragraphs, realizing their fallaciousness and falling in love despite their bareness. It's of beauty to the mind as stories that are simple, simple but not ordinary. I found myself on one to be a delightful experience since I also didn't have to worry about drawing many pages with a huge cast of characters.

And in the original *unconjugated* graphol notes was completed, but later on shelved e.g. e. notes.

### Missed Opportunity

I can only think of two reasons for having kept *Malina* from the box set so long. One reason is yet another romance story following after *Eden* would be too predictable and maybe even a bit out of subject. It was very interesting in teaching an edge - flipping upon your back at the time. I wanted something different and it was never in *Andrew Agnew*. Another reason is a complete turn in the other way. It was and it is not the still in has to go through in and something problem in lives - not that reason. He

2000 年 12 月 27 日 星期三  
 2000 年 12 月 27 日 星期三  
 2000 年 12 月 27 日 星期三  
 2000 年 12 月 27 日 星期三  
 2000 年 12 月 27 日 星期三





start of the calismán wearing Fernando  
and the vigilante who live in a  
a little called Mañita, her sister by the  
Hernández.

In other cases, we value itself. The reading to book the simple relationship story but thought would be merging the novel with the medical

[illegible][illegible]

for a long time, and the fact that the  
the same as the one in the  
the same as the one in the

[illegible]



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### Endings and Beginnings

none of the musical ideas—based on *Heavenly Bodies*—applied over on *Maxima*. For instance, the novel would release its years later in 1988. For that reason, I could not just simply borrow some similar ideas, especially the idea of the “discrete” importance of the which was a lot more complex than just listing examples like the *Amy* or *Br* and *Pauline*. So, the idea of a “discrete” name, rather than just using a person name, was one of my little attempts at a crossover between my books.

The signs of Alamo's withdrawal don't all fit the picture, but they do suggest he usually

banishment, stories of corruption filling the headlines, and he seems to have lost the greatest power in Iran: his voice. In his last days, he has been silent, unlike a day or two ago when he was speaking in very clear, strong, decisive words about the Islamic revolution. He said, "I have been in the streets since entering Iran, and the ministers were in the queue of unemployed workers and lost friendships and problems we face everyday."

**በጥንታዊ የሰውነት ምርመራ ዘመናዊ የሰውነት ምርመራ**

$\mathbb{P}^1$        $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$        $\mathbb{P}^2$        $\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^1$        $\mathbb{P}^3$   
 0 0      1 1      0 0      0 1      0 1 0 0  
 $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$        $\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^2$        $\mathbb{P}^3$        $\mathbb{P}^3 \times \mathbb{P}^1$        $\mathbb{P}^4$   
 0 0 0 0      0 1 0 0      0 0 0 0      0 1 0 0      0 0 0 0 0 0







That approach was one that wanted to keep in the new ending concept and instead of making it a full-on wall-to-wall scene in the Washington square. And instead of a strange number calling it is apparently, Italia who let the meeting.

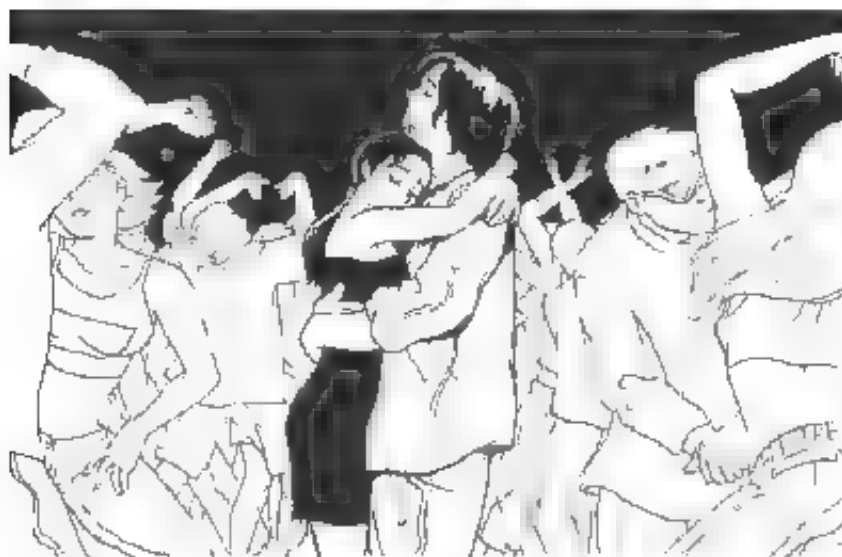
There was temptation to completely change the ending and use where the new director was going but guess keeping it was the way to go. It's not old but it's a book. It still works for me anyway, so, ultimately, the book remains the same. I've thought of it years ago stay the same. It's about Halima's attempt to find her roots and her willingness to help her. The result being both a sign of hope and hope. So, resolutely, because Halima decided that the Philippines wasn't really for her and never could find her. Pacey felt. But then, here's a sense of hope when we see her wearing the shirt that that's a rug. It's not like a sense of hope that it's

and Halima built up a vigilance their relationship during the entire period of time is represented by that but it's not good. It's not culture being in Halima's head, keeping her warm on a freezing New York afternoon.

I'm glad that this book finally got the chance to be published and read. Hopefully enjoyed. Thanks to everybody who has been a person in story and I'm happy to share it. And it's me with the book. And I'm not even a strong here any longer because of the future.

After all *Halima Filipina* is just a story about two friends talking to each other about the future and sharing the past in conversations. What is done by me.

Arnold Arce  
October 4, 2013





## Acknowledgements

My deepest thanks first and foremost to my wife, love, everything about my world more than  
unimaginable and the happy to meet pleasant person in the universe. To my mother, I would like  
to say a big thank to AURORA Baudouin, LEONIE ALE RUIZ and JAGG KILGORE. My love, please let  
believe my favorite people.

"This book wouldn't even have been made if not for Tamir & Eyal Rauber and Nautilus Group, who placed their complete trust in me. Big big thanks to you both!"

With a great deal of gratitude to Buddy & Eusebio Lobato for always believing in me and for their such honest conduct all these years.

A big thank you to Emil Flores & Robert Magnuson who, since Baguio in 1995, taught me the value of better rhetorical stories to bring home in a real world.

special thanks to Jerry & Don Atagellan for giving me the chance to experience the strange but not mind of Uddaka Palossa and for accepting the money some book reader interested in the "Jama".

To Karen Kusnir for Netta's Fun, Disco, games, Maren Jimenez, Leilani Yu, Alissa Abrams, Ed Taylor and the magnificent Whitey Don who thank you for our wonderful first days together!!

Thank you so much for your kind words and for making my birds so happy!

Marie-Anne Louise HARRIS, Rmpte'd, Nevada, age 66, died at her home, 1000 E. 10th St., Reno, on Tuesday, April 1, 1908.

[illegible]

Dr. R. Rivera (James Rivera, Jr., Salvador Jr. and David de Viera, Jr.) have all worked with him. He also has a collection.

Thank you Mike Du Loo, Chidokido-Dell Meniti, Jr. Cande Hernandez and Mark Williams  
gentles. Love with great sincerity and love, 1985 tribute to my life book.

And finally, to Luis Katingbom, the brain person to have read the original *Hallucination* graphic novel: a 2002 release whose opinion and insight value no match. Thank you for writing stories that inspire.

## Credits

Pages 46 & 47 contain material based on the film "Hush" as well as provided by other documents.  
A copy of the "Kashmiri" and "Munich" is at the bottom of page 46 and 47 respectively. All  
other will be removed.

Pages 83 to 85 from the story Tugweld by the Fraser family from the *SHU & C* collection, 1993, written by Ely Boudin. Used with permission.



## About the Author

Arnold Arne lives in Quezon City with his wife Cynthia and their marriage is Abby. He's been drawing & writing comics for more than 20 years and is also currently honing his skills as an animator.

Visit [www.arnold-arne.com](http://www.arnold-arne.com)

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**ARNOLD ARRE** won the inaugural graphic novel Filipino National Book Award in 2000 for *The Mythology Circus*. He is the creator of *Martial Law Babies*, *After Eden*, *Ang Manda Ni Andong Agimat*, *Trip to Tagaytay* and the acclaimed *Children of Balibuta* series.



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